



CONSTITUTION

AND

BY-LAWS

OF THE

WINSLOW COUNCIL, NO. 1,

Seamen's Protective Union

OF BOSTON.

BOSTON:

J. E. FARWELL & CO., PRINTERS, No. 37 Congress Street. 1866.



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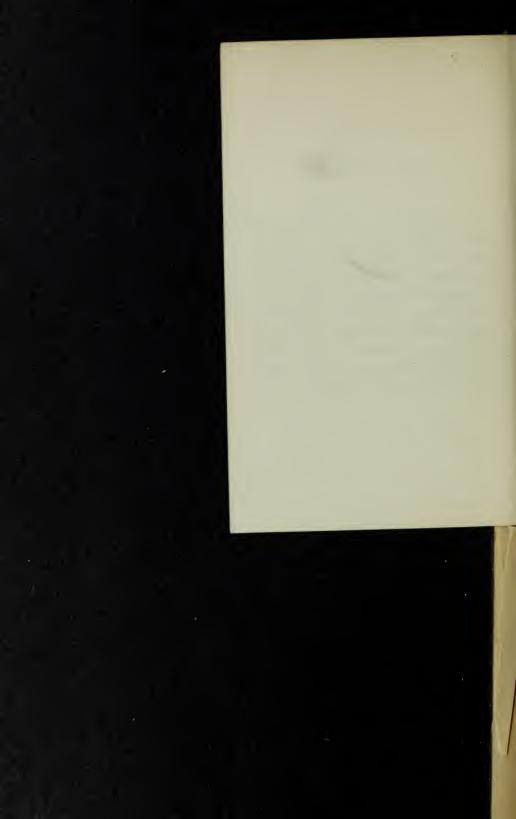
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PREAMBLE.

It is impossible to survey the existing state of affairs between the different classes in our community without deep emotion. The continual encroachments upon the rights and privileges of that class of men whom their peculiar circumstance deprive of self-protection as individuals, against designing and unscrupulous parties, have a debasing and demoralizing influence, which demands an immediate union of effort in adopting measures of protection and reform.



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CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.

Of the Name, Style, and Title.

This Council shall be known by the name, style, and title of Winslow Council, No. 1, of the S. P. U. of Boston. It shall possess the full powers and privileges of a Subordinate Council, so long as it shall act in conformity with the warrant granted to it by the Grand Council of the United States. It shall be composed of brothers who have been regularly initiated into the mysteries of the Order, and legally admitted to membership therein.

ARTICLE II.

Quorum.

Seven members shall constitute a quorum to transact business, and this Council cannot be dissolved, while seven members in good standing object thereto.

ARTICLE III.

Qualifications for Membership.

SECTION I. Every candidate proposed for

membership must be a practical seaman, or must follow or have followed the sea for a livelihood. Provided, however, that this Council may enact a By-Law, stating that any person in every way identified with the interests of seamen, may be a

candidate for membership.

SEC. 2. A brother of the Order wishing to become a member of this Council, shall present his Clearance Card from the Council of which he was last a member. If the Council is satisfied of the correctness of the Card, the application shall be referred to a committee of three, whose duty it shall be to inquire and report at that or the next meeting of the Council, as to the character and fitness of the applicant for membership. If the report be favorable, the applicant shall be balloted for, and if only five black balls appear against him, the applicant shall be declared elected to membership. If more than five black balls appear, the applicant shall be declared rejected. When admitted to membership, the applicant shall pay a fee of two dollars.

SEC. 3. The name of a person offered for membership must be presented in writing, with his initiation fee, and his name shall be entered on the records, and the same shall be referred to a committee appointed by the Chairs, whose duty it shall be to investigate his qualifications and character, and report at that or the next regular or special meeting, when the candidate shall be balloted for, and if not more than five black balls

appear against him, he shall be declared elected; but if six or more appear against him, he shall be declared rejected; and every candidate so rejected shall not be proposed again for the space of six months. All that refers to balloting in this section, may be dispensed with by a two-third vote at any regular meeting.

SEC. 4. Should the candidate be elected, he

SEC. 4. Should the candidate be elected, he shall be notified thereof, and shall be initiated at that or a subsequent meeting. Should he neglect or refuse to appear for initiation, his initia-

ation fee shall be forfeited to this Council.

ARTICLE IV.

Objects.

The objects of this Council shall be the moral, mental, and financial improvement of the members, and also the accumulation of a fund for the benefit of sick and disabled members, their widows and orphans.

ARTICLE V.

Of Cards.

SEC. 1. Any member in good standing wishing to withdraw from this Council, shall apply personally if in the city, or otherwise if out of the city, in open Council for a Clearance Card, which shall be granted him upon payment of all fines and dues charged against him on the Secre-

tary's books, together with twenty-five cents for the Card.

Sec. 2. Any member in good standing wishing to travel, may apply in open Council for a Visiting Card, which shall be granted him for such time as the Council shall determine, not exceeding one year, on his payment of all fines and dues charged against him on the Secretary's books, together with twenty-five cents for the Card; the Brother shall also pay his dues to the time of expiration for which the card is granted.

SEC. 3. A member drawing a Visiting Card, shall be considered a member of this Council in good standing, provided his dues be paid in the manner prescribed by the By-Laws. He shall be amenable to the Council for any misconduct, and shall, if sick, be entitled to his regular weekly benefits. Should he die during the time for which the Card was granted, his funeral benefit shall be paid.

Sec. 4. Any member holding a Visiting Card, being out of the city, shall, if taken sick, report himself to a Council in the place where he may be. Should there be no Council in said place, he shall transmit to this Council a doctor's certificate, stating the nature and length of time of sickness, together with an affidavit from a justice of the peace, witnessed by two respectable citizens. This Council shall, upon such evidence, if found satisfactory, pay the brother's benefits, if entitled.

ARTICLE VI.

Of Dues.

SEC. 1.. Each member of this Council shall pay into the funds thereof, such sums as shall be prescribed by the By-Laws, as his dues, which in no case shall be less than twenty-five cents per month, and such further sum as the By-Laws

shall prescribe for funeral dues.

SEC. 2. Any member who shall neglect or refuse to pay the dues fixed by the By-Laws for the space of twelve months, shall be reported to the Council by the Secretary, and the W. Chief shall, unless otherwise directed by the Council, thereupon declare such member suspended; a record of which shall be made by the Secretary.

ARTICLE VII.

Of Benefits.

Sec. 1. There shall be in the funds of this Council at least five hundred dollars before any member shall be entitled to weekly benefits, unless by donation, which may be made by a two-third vote of the members present at a regu-

lar meeting.

SEC. 2. In case of the death of a member of this Council in good standing, there shall be allowed from the funds of this Council not less than twenty dollars for funeral expenses, and as much more as the Council may deem necessary.

SEC. 3. In case of siekness of a member in good standing, he shall receive out of the funds of the Council a sum of not less than three dollars per week as the By-Laws may direct, to date from the time the Relief Committee receives notice of the member's sickness, provided that such member is not more than three months in arrears, and that his sickness has not originated from intemperance, vicious, or immoral conduct.

SEC. 4. A member shall be considered in good standing, when free of indebtedness to this Council for dues and fines; provided also, that there is no charge of any kind pending against him on the Secretary's books. No member in arrears can come forward and pay his dues for the purpose of receiving sick benefits; but shall be debarred of all benefits during said sickness.

ARTICLE VIII.

Of Officers.

Sec. 1. The elective officers of this Council shall consist of a Worthy Chief, Deputy Chief, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Conductor, Warden, and three Trustees, whose term of office shall be six mouths, and no brother shall be entitled to the office of W. Chief, who has not served a term as Dep. Chief, also no brother shall be entitled to the office of Dep. Chief, who has not served a term in some elective office.

Sec. 2. Every officer must be clear of all charges on the books previous to his election.

Sec. 3. Nominations for elective officers shall be made at the meeting previous to election.

SEC. 4. Officers shall be elected at the last regular meetings in March and September, and installed at the first regular meetings in April and October.

Sec. 5. Vacancies occurring in any office by death, resignation, or otherwise, should immediately be filled by the Council electing or the proper officer appointing another member instead.

SEC. 6. The W. Chief, or officer acting as such, shall appoint the majority of all Committees.

SEC. 7. The subordinate officers shall consist of a Tyler and Right and Left Supporter to the first Chair, who shall be appointed by the W. Chief, and Right and Left Supporter to the second chair, who shall be appointed by the Dep. Chief on the night of installation.

ARTICLE IX.

Penalties and Trials.

Sec. 1. Any member neglecting or refusing to pay his dues to this Council, according to the By-Laws, for the space of three months, shall not be permitted to vote, or take part in any discussion whatever.

SEC. 2. Any member who shall violate any of the principles of this Council, or offend against the Constitution or By-Laws, or Rules of Order, shall be fined or suspended, or expelled, as the By-Laws may direct, or the Council may determine.

SEC. 3. No member shall be put on trial unless charges duly specifying the offence be preferred against him, so as to fully apprise him of the nature thereof, and enable him to prepare for his defence. Such charge or charges shall be preferred in writing, signed by at least one mem-

ber in good standing in this Council.

SEC. 4. Such charges shall be referred to a committee appointed by the Chairs, who shall, without unnecessary delay, summon the party, and try the case. They shall keep full minutes of their proceedings and evidence, which they shall report to the Council, together with the decision on the charges, when the council shall act as the members may think proper.

SEC. 5. If the accused refuse or neglect to stand trial, when duly summoned, the Committee shall report him guilty of contempt of this Council, which report shall be conclusive, and the punishment shall be suspension or expulsion, as

the Council may determine.

SEC. 6. Any member convicted by any judicial Tribunal for any crime, or otherwise act so that his conduct may tend to bring disgrace on the Order, shall be suspended or expelled, as

the Council may determine at a regular meeting by a majority vote.

ARTICLE X.

SEC. 1. This Constitution shall not be altered or amended unless proposed at a stated meeting of the Grand Council, which cannot be acted upon until the next session of the Grand Council. If agreed to by a majority of all the members present, it shall become a part of this Constitution, but not otherwise.

Sec. 2. This Council shall have the power to make, from time to time, such By-Laws as may be deemed necessary for its general good: Provided, always, that such By-Laws and amendments do not conflict with the Constitution.

ARTICLE XI.

The funds and property of this Council having been raised for the protection of members, or any necessary expense for the good of the Council, it cannot be divided in any manner amongst the members individually, or between this Council and any that may branch from it, but shall remain the property of this Council, for its good purposes.

ARTICLE XII.

It shall be the duty of Worthy Chief to order notices served on all the members of the Coun-

cil (except those who are absent from the city) to attend the funeral of a deceased brother.

ARTICLE XIII.

All religious or political debates are strictly prohibited in the meetings of this Council.

ARTICLE XIV.

Any doubt as to the true meaning of any Article or Section of this Constitution shall be submitted to the officers of the Grand Council, whose decision thereon shall be final.

ARTICLE XV.

This Council shall elect one Past Chief at the election in September, to serve for the term of one year, as their representative to the Grand Council. Such representative shall be allowed for his services, out of the funds of this Council, a sum not exceeding \$3,00 per day as the By-Laws may direct, for the time he loses, while attending the Grand Council.

ARTICLE XVI.

This Council shall pay semi-annually to the Grand Council before installation of their officers, 7 per eent. for every member initiated during the term, provided however, that in ease such percentage should not be sufficient to meet

the expenses of the Grand Council, the several councils shall at once pay each and every one an equal portion of the deficiency in the funds of the Grand Council, in default of which, any Council so offending shall forfeit the charter and all rights and privileges in the Order. This article may be altered at any session of the Grand Council.

ARTICLE XVII.

This Council shall furnish its Secretary with a "Black Book," wherein shall be entered the names of all suspended and expelled members, setting forth the name, birth-place, residence, and occupation of each and every suspended or expelled member, together with the cause of such suspension or expulsion. The Secretary shall inform the Grand Secretary of the Grand Council of the United States of each and every suspension or expulsion, forthwith, together with the name, profession, birth-place, and residence of the culprit, and the cause or causes of such suspension or expulsion; such information shall be under the seal of the Council, signed by the Worthy Chief, and attested by the Secretary.

ARTICLE XVIII.

For absence from any stated or adjourned stated meeting, any elective officer shall be fined not less than twenty-five cents, and subordinate officers not less than 12 cents; sickness or absence from the city excepted.

ARTICLE XIX.

Any elective or appointed officer being absent three successive stated meetings, shall forfeit his office, and the presiding officer shall declare the chair vacant.

ARTICLE XX.

Relief Committee.

The W. Chief, Dep. Chief and Assist. Secretary shall constitute the Committee of Relief, whose duty it shall be to visit within twenty-four hours any brother who may have been reported sick, and who resides within three miles from the place of meeting; any of the above-named officers, failing to attend to their duties punctually, shall be fined 50 cents for each and every offence.

The foregoing Constitution for Subordinate Councils was adopted by the Grand Council of the United States at Philadelphia on the third day of May, 1866.

JOHN O'GRADY,

M. W. Great Chief.

ATTEST: WM. BLANCBOIS,

R. W. Grand Secretary.

BY-LAWS.

ARTICLE I.

Time of Meeting.

The regular meetings of this Council shall be held on Friday evening of each week. The hours of meeting shall be, from the first day of April to the first day of October, at eight o'clock; and from the first day of October to the first day of April at half past seven o'clock. The Worthy Chief shall call special meetings at the written request of five members in good standing.

ARTICLE II.

Qualifications for Membership.

No person shall be admitted as a member of this Council without being a practical Seaman, or in every way identified with the interests of Seamen.

ARTICLE III.

Duties of the Worthy Chief.

It shall be the duty of the Worthy Chief to preside at the meetings of the Council, to preserve order and harmony, to put all questions, and announce the decisions of the same. He shall have the privilege to vote at the election of Officers or members but on no other question, except the members are equally divided; then his easting vote shall decide. He shall also superintend and watch over the interests of the Council and perform such other duties as pertain to his office.

ARTICLE IV.

Duties of the Deputy Chief.

It shall be the duty of the Deputy Chief to assist the Worthy Chief in the discharge of his duties, to preside at the meetings of the Council. in the absence of the W. C. and for the time being enjoy all the privileges, perform all the duties, and exercise all the powers which properly belong to the W. C. In the absence of the W. C. and D. C. a Chairman shall be appointed pro tem.

ARTICLE V.

Duties of the Secretary.

It shall be the duty of the Secretary to record all the proceedings of the Council, and read the same when requested by the Worthy Chief; keep a correct account between the Council and its members; collect all dues for initiation, monthly assessments, and fines, and pay the same to the Treasurer without delay, taking his receipt therefor. He shall issue all notices,

keep a correct list of all the members, together with their residences, and perform all other duties which properly belong to the office of Secretary. He shall render a detailed quarterly report, and his books shall be open at all times for the inspection of the members of the Council, and for his services he shall receive such compensation as the Council may determine.

ARTICLE VI.

Duties of Assistant Secretary.

It shall be the duty of the Assistant Secretary to record the proceedings of the Relief Committee; keep a correct account of all moneys paid for beneficial and charitable purposes, note the date on which any sick brother, entitled to and receiving weekly benefits or pecuniary assistance, may have been reported to the Relief Committee, the length of his sickness, and the amount of money paid him. He shall keep a record of the circumstances attending the death and burial of a brother for whom funeral benefits may be paid, and inform the relatives of the deceased brother of the same, if practicable. He shall also assist the Secretary in the performance of his duties, and for his services he shall receive such compensation as the Council may determine.

ARTICLE VII.

Duties of the Treasurer.

It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to collect

and receive all moneys from the Secretary, received for initiation, monthly assessments, and fines; pay all bills against the Council, approved by the Board of Trustees and countersigned by the Worthy Chief and Secretary. He shall, with the advice of the Worthy Chief, Secretary, and Board of Trustees, and in the presence of them all, deposit all moneys which may be in his hands at any time, in excess of the sum of one hundred dollars, in a safe and reliable banking institution; but no sum less than twenty-five dollars shall be deposited. He shall transfer the book or evidence of such a deposit to the Worthy Chief for safe keeping. He shall not draw any money to pay bills, or for any other purpose whatever, without the draft is signed by the Worthy Chief, Secretary, and Board of Trustees, and he shall cause this proviso to be entered upon the books of the institution which may receive such a deposit. He shall keep a correct account of all his receipts and disbursements in the regular order of business transactions, report the same quarterly, and his books shall be open at all times for the inspection of the members of the Council.

ARTICLE VIII.

Duties of the Conductor.

It shall be the duty of the Conductor to examine the members in the Pass-word at the opening of the Council; should there be any

persons present who are not entitled to remain, to conduct them to the ante-room, to receive the candidates and assist at their initiation, and perform such other duties as the Council may require.

ARTICLE IX.

Duties of the Warden.

It shall be the duty of the Warden to take charge of the passage to the rooms of this Council; allow no person to enter without the password; should any member present himself without the password, report the same to the Worthy Chief, and with his consent admit the brother; to see that the members are furnished with their regalia on entering the room, and collect the same at the close of the Council, and preserve them in a careful manner, to assist at the initiation, and perform such other duties as the Council may require.

ARTICLE X.

Duties of the Trustees.

It shall be the duty of the Trustees to examine the books of the Secretary and Treasurer from time to time, and report quarterly in detailed form. They shall have the superintending of all financial matters relative to the Council, and all demands against the Council shall be referred to them for examination and approval.

ARTICLE XI.

Committees.

SEC. 1. The Worthy Chief, Deputy Chief, and Assistant Secretary, constituting the relief Committee, shall have the power to appoint Sub-Committees whenever they may deem it necessary for the interest of the members of the Council.

SEC. 2. Any member appointed on a Committee who shall neglect or refuse to attend to the duty assigned to such a Committee, shall be liable to a fine of fifty cents, sickness or absence from the city excepted.

ARTICLE XII.

Funds.

SEC. 1. No moneys shall be drawn or appropriated from the funds of the Council, without the consent of the members at a regular meeting by a two-third vote.

meeting, by a two-third vote.

SEC. 2. No bills shall be contracted for any any purpose relative to the Council without the consent of the members at a regular meeting by a vote of the majority.

ARTICLE XIII.

Benefits.

SEC. 1. Any member in good standing being

sick or bodily disabled, and therefore unable to attend to his usual occupation, shall receive the sum of three dollars per week, and as much more as the Council may determine, not exceeding the space of six months; provided such sickness or disability does not proceed from intemperance or immoral conduct on his part.

SEC. 2. In case of the death of a member in good standing, there shall be allowed out of the funds of the Council, the sum of twenty dollars, for funeral expenses, and as much more as the

Council may determine.

SEC. 3. Any member in good standing having been deprived of his rights while in the performance of his duties on shipboard, or while on shore, shall receive all the assistance which this Council may legally render him to obtain his rights and justice.

Sec. 4. The widow or orphans of a deceased brother shall receive such assistance from this Council, as the members may determine at a

regular meeting by a unanimous vote.

ARTICLE XIV.

Dues and Penalties.

SEC. 1. The initiation fee for admission into this Council shall be one dollar, to be paid when proposed for membership; and the monthly assessments shall be twenty-five cents, to be paid quarterly.

SEC. 2. Any member being noted for ab-

sence, at three regular successive meetings without giving a reasonable excuse, personally or otherwise, at or before the meeting is called to order, shall be liable to a fine of fifty cents, sickness or absence from the city excepted.

SEC. 3. Any member disclosing any of the business transactions of this Council, (or speaking disrespectfully thereof,) shall be fined, suspended, or expelled, as the members may determine at a regular meeting, by a vote of the majority.

Sec. 4. Any member who does not, on changing his residence, report the same to the Secretary within one week, in writing, shall be liable to a fine of fifty cents.

SEC. 5. Any member who does not, on leaving the city, on board of a vessel or otherwise, notify the Secretary of the same in writing, stating the name of the vessel, where bound, by whom shipped, and at what rate of wages, shall be liable to a fine of fifty cents.

SEC. 6. Any member being sick or absent from the city, shall be allowed a reasonable time to pay his dues.

Sec. 7. Every member shall be supplied with a copy of the Constitution and By-Laws of this Council for which he shall be charged the sum of ten cents.

ARTICLE XV.

Unlawful Acts.

No member shall be countenanced, much less

assisted in the committal of any illegal acts, however much such a course of proceeding might promise to accomplish for the benefit of the Order.

ARTICLE XVI.

Withdrawal.

No member shall be allowed to withdraw from this Council for the purpose of becoming a member of another Council of the Order, without producing satisfactory reasons for so doing.

ARTICLE XVII. Funerals.

When a member is removed by death, information shall be given to the Worthy Chief, who shall call a meeting of the Council. The members shall assemble, agreeable to such call, at the appointed hour, for the purpose of attending the funeral of the deceased brother in procession.

ARTICLE XVIII.

Election of Officers.

SEC. 1. The election or choice of officers shall be determined by written or printed ballots, and the candidate receiving the highest number of ballots shall be considered elected.

SEC. 2. There shall be three inspectors of election, appointed by the Worthy Chief, who shall superintend the election, receive and count

the ballots, and announce the result of the same to the W. C. who shall declare the successful candidates as officers of the Council.

ARTICLE XIX.

Time of Business.

The regular office hours of the Secretary for the transaction of business, payment of assessments, notification, etc., shall be from ten to twelve o'elock in the forenoon.

ARTICLE XX.

Resolutions and Amendments to the By-Laws.

SEC. 1. This Council may from time to time pass such resolutions as the true interests of all concerned may demand.

SEC. 2. These By-Laws may be altered or amended upon a written statement of the same submitted at least two regular meetings previous to its being acted upon, and a two-third vote of the members present shall be necessary for the adoption of such alteration or amendment.

MURDOCH MATHESON, Worthy Chief. WILLIAM TAYLOR, Deputy Chief. HENRY KREY, Secretary. GEORGE DOOLEY, Treasurer. Committee on By-Laws.

RULES OF ORDER.

RULE 1. The presiding officer having taken the chair, the officers and members shall clothe themselves in regalia and take their seats, and at the sound of the gavel, there shall be general silence.

Rule 2. No motion shall be subject to debate until it has been seconded and stated by the chair. It shall be reduced to writing at the re-

quest of any two members.

Rule 3. When a question is before the Council, no motion shall be received — unless it be to adjourn, to lie on the table, the previous question, to refer, to postpone indefinitely, to postpone to a certain time, or to amend; and the motions just enumerated shall take precedence in the order of enumeration.

Rule 4. On a call of three members, a majority of the Council may demand that the previous question shall be put, which shall always be in this form: "Shall the main question be now put?" and, until it is decided, no further debate shall take place, and the vote shall be taken first, on any amendments that may be pending, and next, on the final question.

RULE. 5. When the reading of any paper or other matter is called for, and the same is ob-

jected to by any member, it shall be determined by a vote of the Council without debate.

Rule 6. Before putting a question, the presiding officer shall ask, "Is the Council ready for the question?" If no member rise to speak, he shall rise and put it. While the presiding officer is putting a question, or addressing the Council, none shall walk out of or across the room, nor entertain private discourse; and after he shall have risen to put it, no member shall speak upon it.

RULE 7. The presiding officer, or any member doubting the decision of a question, may call for a division of the Council; but a division can not be called for after the Chair has announced the result of a vote.

RULE 8. No member shall be permitted to speak or vote, unless clothed in regalia according to his rank and station, and occupying his seat at the place designated for him.

RULE 9. Every officer and member shall be designated by his proper title or office, according to his standing in the Order.

Rule 10. Every member when he speaks or offers a motion, shall rise and respectfully address the Chair; and while speaking, he shall confine himself to the question in debate, avoiding all personalities and indecorous language, as well as all reflections upon the Council or any of its members.

RULE 11. Should two members rise to speak at the same time, the Chair shall decide which is

entitled to the floor. And no member shall interrupt or disturb another while speaking, unless to call him to order for words spoken.

Rule 12. If a member while speaking shall be called to order, he shall, at the request of the chair, take his scat until the question of order is decided, when, if permitted, he may proceed

again.

Rule 13. The decisions of the Chair on points of order, may be appealed from by any member; and in such cases the question shall be, "Shall the decision of the Chair stand as the judgment of the Council?" which question shall be taken by the D. Chief.

Rule 14. No member shall speak more than twice on the same question, until all the members wishing to speak have had an opportunty

to do so.

Rule 15. When a petition, memorial, or communication is presented, a brief statement of its contents shall be made by the introducer or the Chair, and, after it has been read, a brief notice of its purport shall be entered upon the

Rule 16. When a blank is to be filled, the question shall be taken first upon the highest sum or number, and the longestor latest time proposed.

Rule 17. Any member who voted with the majority may call for a reconsideration of a vote at the same session at which it was passed; and if sustained by a majority of all the votes, the reconsideration shall be carried.

RULE 18. Any member may excuse himself from serving on a Committee, if at the time of his appointment he is a member of two other committees; no member can be appointed on a Committee when absent from the Council.

Rule. 19. No more than two amendments to a proposition shall be entertained at the same time, that is, an amendment and an amendment to the amendment, and the question shall be first

taken on the latter.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

- 1. Opening of the Council.
- 2. Officers taking their respective stations.
- 3. Warden securing the Doors.
- 4. Conductor examining the members.
- 5. Calling of the Roll of Officers.
- 6. Reading of the Records.
- 7. Balloting for Candidates.
- 8. Initiation.
- 9. Reception of Communications.
- 10. Report of Relief Committee.
- 11. Report of Special Committee.
- 12. Report of Standing Committee.
- 13. Unfinished business.
- 14. New Business.
- 15. Good of the Order.
- 16. Receipts.
- 17. Adjournment.



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66	66	Louisiana,		2000
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